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News Release

For Immediate Release

City of Springfield to be presented with Digital Cities Survey award tomorrow

AT&T's Dennis Pauley will present the City of Springfield with a 2013 Digital Cities Survey award at tomorrow's City Council Lunch (noon, Busch Municipal Building 4th Floor Conference Room). Director of Information Systems Jeff Coiner will accept the award on behalf of the City.

E.Republic's Center for Digital Government and the Digital Communities Program announced the top-ranked cities in the 2013 Digital Cities Survey in November 2013. Springfield, Mo. ranked 10th among cities with populations of 125,000 to 249,000.

"Nationally the number of tech-savvy digital cities is increasing, particularly among the larger jurisdictions responding to the survey," said Todd Sander, executive director of the Center for Digital Government. "The top digital cities are leaders in open data and transparency efforts, as well as innovators in deploying mobile applications to citizens while conforming to fiscal standards."

Top-ranked cities improved transparency with open government initiatives and access to city services via mobile apps. They eliminated waste and enhanced service levels using agile project management, and reduced costs and improved services through advanced analytics and performance measures, according to e.Republic.

"Over the last year, the City of Springfield has made significant improvements to the digital services we offer citizens," said Jeff Coiner, Information Systems director for the City. "From our e-Plans electronic plan review initiative to providing a shared records management system for law enforcement agencies to our interactive maps and aerial photography partnerships with other local government agencies, what sets us apart from other communities is our willingness to work together and partner on initiatives that cross agency boundaries and political issues."

Coiner added that City leadership's culture of cooperation lends itself to building great things in the community.

"The digital city designation is just an extension of what we are doing collectively to meet our challenges and prepare for the future ... we are truly creating a foundation for explosive growth in the region on many fronts," he said. Future plans include revamping the City's websites and adding more interactive capabilities for citizens to communicate directly with local government.

In its 13th year, the annual survey is a part of the Digital Communities Program and is open to all U.S. cities. The survey criteria focused on results achieved by cities—via the use of technology—in operating efficiencies, realizing strategic objectives, innovative or creative solutions or approaches, effective collaboration and transparency measures, among others.

The Center for Digital Government is a national research and advisory institute on information technology policies and best practices in state and local government. The Center is a division of <u>e.Republic</u>, the nation's only media and research company focused exclusively on the state and local government market and education.

For more information, please contact Jeff Coiner, Director of Information Systems, at 417-864-1626 or jcoiner@springfieldmo.gov.